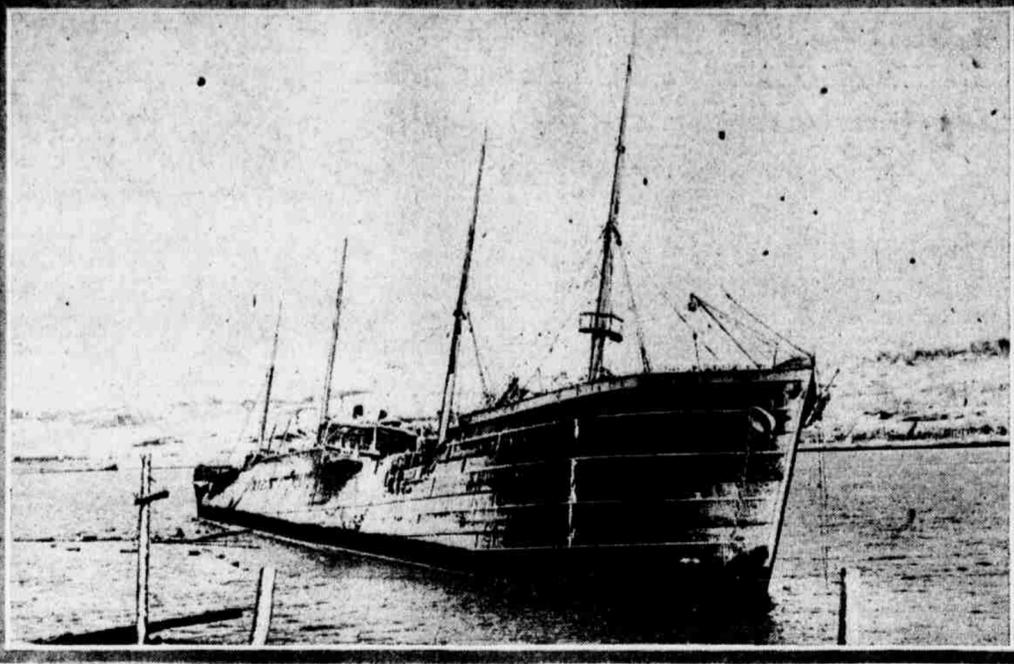


A "CLOSE-UP" OF THE SHIP THAT CAUSED THE HALIFAX DISASTER



This is the first picture to reach here showing at close range the present condition of the Belgian relief ship, which collided with the French munitions transport Mont Blanc in Halifax harbor, causing the explosion that resulted in the loss of thousands of lives, the destruction of a large part of the city and which made thousands of other victims homeless and destitute.

U. S. BIG GUNS READY TO DO THEIR SHARE

Crozier Shows Committee Conditions Are Better Than Supposed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Chief of Ordnance Crozier, testifying today at the secret Senate Military Committee's investigation, detailed the situation regarding heavy ordnance, field artillery and big guns.

'DRY' STATES WON'T STAY ON WAGON

Men With 'White Mule' Packages Unable to Take Them Home

Time and experience under prohibition are working out some very curious and instructive results in the neighboring communities of Oregon and Washington. One of the first effects of the dry regime was an increase in the demand for candy, for fruit juices, and other more or less "dry" indulgences, including chewing gum and taffy on a stick.

INSECTS DEADLY FOES OF FIGHTING MEN

Not Only Bacilli, but Those Visible to Naked Eye Cause Disease

Not only bacilli, but insects visible to the naked eye are causing a great human mortality in the war. This startling statement was made by Philip P. Calvert, professor of zoology, at a lecture at the University of Pennsylvania today.

PURE WATER AT LOW COST

No matter where you live, you can have plenty of pure water at a low cost. The Fleck Bros. Co. has a system of water purification that is simple and efficient.

WRITES TO SANTA; DIES

ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 15.—A letter to Santa Claus was published yesterday in a local newspaper from Julius Reffner, a four-year-old, of Roaring Springs, and in another section of the paper appeared the death notice of this boy, who succumbed to membranous croup two days after his appeal had been written. His letter read:

TECLA Pearl Necklaces \$75 to \$350 with diamond clasp

Advertisement for 'The New Hotel Manover' featuring a lamp illustration and text about hotel services and amenities.

WOMEN PLAN TO SEND GREETING TO SAMMEES

Yuletide Message to Pershing and His Men Will Express Confidence

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—A message of confidence carrying Yuletide greetings is planned to be sent to General Pershing and his soldiers by the Defense Council's women's committee.

INDICTED FOR AIDING ENEMY

Platinum and Rubber Smuggled Into Germany, Is Charged

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Trapped through the diligence of a Belgian officer, Jack Terl was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury here today on a charge of smuggling platinum and rubber into Germany from the United States by way of Holland.

TAX COLLECTION LAX, SNYDER CHARGES

State Loses Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars Through Criminal Methods

Auditor General Snyder, after a conference with the city auditor, has announced that investigation has shown that the state is losing hundreds of thousands of dollars because of criminal and lax methods of tax collection.

FIRST LIBERTY-LOAN INTEREST DUE TODAY

Government Also Pays Its Certificates and Collects on Four Per Cent Bonds

Today is a memorable one for those persons who have demonstrated their patriotism by subscribing to the national Liberty Loan.

NAVY READY TO TRAIN MERCHANT OFFICERS

Shipping Board Will Not Be Equal to the Task, Officials Say

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Shipping Board will be unable to train adequate men as navigators for the American merchant marine by the time the ships are ready unless they turn over the task to competent navy instructors.

He Can't Stop Growing

Although he is thirty-nine years old, Arthur Clark, an inmate of a Michigan sanatorium, adds a quarter inch to his height every twelve months and now measures six feet eight inches in his stockings.

1600 Extra Men to Handle Mail

Sixteen hundred extra men and boys will be pressed into service to handle the Christmas rush of mail in the Philadelphia Postoffice, according to Postmaster John A. Thorston.

COAL SHORTAGE CLOSES 100 CLEVELAND PLANTS

Garfield Told 100,000 Are Out of Work—Relief Asked

CLEVELAND, Dec. 15.—With close to 100,000 men and women thrown out of work because of the shutting down of more than one hundred factories and close to 20,000 families suffering because of lack of fuel, Federal Post Administrator Garfield was appealed to at Washington today to rush coal to Cleveland.

LUXBURG INSANE, ARGENTINA RUMOR

Former German Envoy of 'Spurlos Versenkt' Fame Taken to Sanatorium

By CHARLES P. STEWART Special Cable Service of the Daily Press and Tribune

EXPECT DRASTIC LAWS TO CUT FOOD PRICES

Results Blamed on Lack of Business Control

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The reason prices of food and fuel remain at high levels, and, in some cases, continue to rise, is that the branches of the Government charged with keeping prices down and breaking the trade are "free." The remaining 80 per cent is under control.

GOVERNOR APPOINTED DEAD MAN TO OFFICE

Twice Named on Important Committees by the State's Chief Executive

HARRISBURG, Dec. 15.—When the present State Administration ends it will have appointed all officers in the number of appointments named for one year and the number of committees named by the Executive.

GOULLET ENLISTS IN NAVY

Australian Who Won Six-Day Bike Race Joins Uncle Sam's Colors

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Alfred Gouillet, who with Jake Gavin, won the six-day bicycle race here last week, enlisted yesterday in the navy.

MILLIE DE MARCO'S FATE NEARS JURY'S DECISION

Mount Holly Murder Trial Reaches Final Stage—Chief Accuser Uncorroborated

MT. HOLLY, N. J., Dec. 15.—Millie De Marco's murder trial was finished this morning as far as testimony was concerned, and the case will go to the jury this afternoon. It is felt that the jury will not be long deciding on a verdict.

Ticket Agent Dies Suddenly

James A. Weaver, ticket agent at the Times station of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, died suddenly yesterday, a few moments after he left his Quakertown home. He was stricken with heart disease as he was about to take a train to Philadelphia. He was sixty-six years old.

Many Maryland Teachers Quit

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 15.—Twenty-eight Carroll County school teachers have resigned, and in Washington County thirty teachers have quit. Many schools will have to close because teachers have obtained more remunerative employment, especially in the Government.

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MEMORIALS AND SERVICES TO ASSIST BABIES

West Philadelphia Chauffeur's Message Cheers Hospital Campaign Workers

TOTAL REACHES \$92,520

Fourth Day's Result Shows Half-way Mark in \$175,000 Drive Exceeded

"Guess it won't hurt me to cut out a few smokes—so long as it's for the babies. I intend to cobble my own shoes, too. Included is one dollar paved on a job of half soiling."

The above message, signed "West Philadelphia's Chauffeur," brought a round of applause at today's rally luncheon of campaign workers for the Babies' Hospital fund of \$175,000, held at the Bellevue-Stratford.

A contribution of \$4.00 "From the Hallway of the Motion Picture Club" and \$500 "In Memoriam of a Baby" were other items swelling the day's receipts to \$28,197, bringing a grand total of \$92,520 for the first four days of the ten-day drive.

As this represents an average of over \$2,000 a day to date, the remaining \$82,520 of the aimed for \$175,000 is counted on with certainty by next Saturday night.

Champion honoree of the day for the women's teams were divided between Mrs. William Strick, Warren, captain of team No. 5, who reported subscriptions of \$1,110, and Mrs. E. L. Armano, captain of team No. 1, who reported \$210. The Executive Committee went to Captain B. B. Booth, 2d, of team No. 211, on a showing of \$1,111.

Grand total reported: \$92,520. Total for the day: \$28,197. Grand total to date: \$92,520.

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COUNCIL

Named to Co-ordinate Movements Against Teutons

MEET IN EUROPE

Admiral Benson Sends Word to Insure Closest Cooperation of Fleets

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—A cable from Admiral Benson at Paris announced the creation of an allied council to co-ordinate the naval operations of all the nations at war against the Central Powers.

The council, established in accordance with the plans of the Allied Conference, will report to respective Governments with recommendations for action.

The council will be composed of the chief of staff of the navy of each country, and in the case of the United States Secretary Danialson and Admiral Benson.

As the meetings will be held in Europe, flag officers named by their Governments will constitute the members from both the United States and Japan.

Admiral Benson's message was made public by Secretary Daniels, as follows: "The conference was held at the Ministry of Marine in Paris on Thursday, Friday, November 29 and 30, presided over by Monsieur Loyseau, Minister of Marine, the following delegates being present:

France, M. Jules Sieu, sous-secrétaire d'Etat au Ministère de la Marine; M. de la Cour, chef de l'Etat-Major; M. de la Cour, chef de l'Etat-Major; M. de la Cour, chef de l'Etat-Major.

United States, Admiral Benson, Chief of the Bureau of Operations; Vice Admiral C. D. Sigsbee, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Operations; Vice Admiral C. D. Sigsbee, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Operations.

Japan, Vice Admiral Kusaka, Chief of the Japanese Navy; Vice Admiral Kusaka, Chief of the Japanese Navy; Vice Admiral Kusaka, Chief of the Japanese Navy.

It has been decided to create a permanent allied council in order to insure the closest touch and complete co-ordination between the allied fleets.

The task of the council will be to insure the general conduct of the naval war and to insure co-ordination of all scientific operations connected with the conduct of the war.

The council will make all the necessary arrangements to enable the command to keep itself informed as to the execution of plans decided upon.

The members of the council will report to their respective Governments as necessary. The individual responsibility of the chiefs of staff and of the commander-in-chief at sea toward their respective Governments is not affected, as well as the strategic and tactical disposition of the forces placed under their command, remains unchanged.

It has been decided that the council should consist of the Ministers of Marine of the nations represented and of the chiefs of the naval staffs. As a preliminary to the official opening of the council will be held in Europe, the chiefs of the general naval staffs of the United States and Japan will be represented by flag officers nominated by their respective Governments.

The allied council will be provided with a permanent secretariat, whose business it will be to collect and collate all necessary information, etc.

The council will meet as often as is thought necessary, under the presidency of the Minister of Marine of the country in which the council is held. The various admiralties will furnish the council with the information which is necessary for the work to be carried out.

Admiral Benson's announcement was announced some days ago in Paris dispatches regarding the reports of the creation of an allied naval council.

POLICEMAN STABBED BY ROBBER IS IMPROVING

The condition of Policeman Patrick McGuire, attached to the Twentieth and Twenty-first streets, who was stabbed last night by Marie Anasta, of Philadelphia, Pa., whom he sought to arrest on the charge of highway robbery, has improved and he will be able to appear at his assailant today.

McGuire was stabbed on Gray's avenue by Marie Anasta, who was arrested on the charge of highway robbery. McGuire was stabbed on Gray's avenue by Marie Anasta, who was arrested on the charge of highway robbery.

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RED CROSS DRIVE

Will Begin Monday

Continued from Page One

With the red cross on their foreheads, which will stand on the south entrance of City Hall, there on these figures, which will be twenty feet high, began today.

The campaign is to be carried through every trade letter, telephone and personal call, according to Joseph Lucas, chairman of the industrial committee.

Dr. D. J. McCarthy, of the University of Pennsylvania, who has but recently returned to America from Russia, where he worked in organizing the Red Cross of that country, will also be in the big drive. At a formal meeting to be held in Keith's tomorrow night, as a preliminary to the official opening of the Red Cross drive Monday, he will tell of the work of the Red Cross in Russia and make a stirring appeal for members here.

Boxes and seats for the John McCormack concert, which is to be held Thursday night in the Metropolitan Opera House, are selling rapidly. McCormack has announced that the concert free, and there will not be any collection or war tax. The entire proceeds will be turned over to the Red Cross.

The Main Line Red Cross campaign is on full swing today, with virtually every prominent woman behind the drive.

Plans are being made for a motoring parade, in which prominent Red Cross workers will appear in costume. Chauffeurs will dress in the Santa Claus, trying the Christmas spirit.

Members of the women's campaign committee attending the meeting of that body on women's day, next Wednesday, at the Metropolitan Opera House, will be urged to take part in the drive.

Plans for the greatest Christmas carol festival ever held in the city were announced by the Community Singing Association, co-operating with the Red Cross. All the churches in the city have been invited to co-operate with their choirs in the big four-day program.

An impressive Red Cross carol procession down Broad street Saturday afternoon, December 22, will begin the demonstration. Christmas music and singing of carols in all the churches is being arranged for Sunday, December 23. Carols will be sung in the streets in every section of the city Christmas eve, and are the Red Cross-Christmas.

At 9 o'clock, "America" will be sung. Each church represented in the plan will furnish a float mounted on a motor-truck, according to John P. Bain, president of the association, will be decorated with the flags of the United States, the only real car of the United States, will be trimmed with evergreen.

The church choirs, with their floats, will assemble at Broad and Diamond streets, where the parade will start. The procession of floats will roll slowly down Broad street to Pine, the choirs singing "Advent Festivities," "Joy to the World" and "America," three songs requiring no rehearsal. The crowds on the sidewalk will be invited to join in the singing.

Disbanding at Pine street, the procession will split into neighborhood singing festivals in various parts of the city.

Cotton High in Austria

ZURICH, Dec. 15.—Advices from Vienna state that cotton is now selling there at thirty kronen (about \$5) a reel. Agers, however, it is said, are purchasing all stocks available and are shipping them to Budapest, where prices are still higher.

At the close of the testimony, Lawyer Palmer renewed his motion for the direction of a verdict of not guilty on the ground that the State had failed to corroborate Iracu, but it was denied.

Many Maryland Teachers Quit

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 15.—Twenty-eight Carroll County school teachers have resigned, and in Washington County thirty teachers have quit. Many schools will have to close because teachers have obtained more remunerative employment, especially in the Government.

WOMEN MAN CARS AT JOHNSTOWN

Women are taking the places of motormen and conductors of the Johnstown Traction Company. Virtually all of the active men have enlisted in the army service, have been drafted or are employed in making war materials.

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